

IN HONOR OF BARBARA A.
NYEGRAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Barbara A. Nyegran, mother of seven, grandmother of thirteen, and a passionate and steadfast advocate for older persons in and around the Cleveland area.

Whether it was in policy, planning, or service delivery, Barbara was a determined and consistent leader in ensuring the needs of seniors were met, and that the livelihood and independence of seniors were maximized to the fullest extent possible.

Barbara began her career in aging as a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels in Parma, Ohio. As former director of both the Tri-City Senior Center in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, and the Ehrnfelt Senior Center in Strongsville, Ohio, Barbara spent her days listening, problem solving, informing, community building, and serving.

She also was an effective leader of several organizations with a mission rooted in serving vulnerable seniors. Barbara chaired the Cuyahoga County Advisory Council on Senior and Adult Services, and she was a Trustee of the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging. She was instrumental in the establishment and development of programs to assist seniors with transportation, home health, and personal needs.

Barbara also took the lead in establishing the Strongsville Community Foundation and the Strongsville Backyard Preserve—a 37-acre green space for recreation.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating the life and work of Barbara A. Nyegran, a dedicated mother, grandmother, public servant, and friend to many.

RECOGNIZING KATHLEEN WALSH,
ELMHURST, IL “MAYOR FOR A
DAY”

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a young leader from my Congressional District, Kathleen Walsh. Kathleen's essay was selected as the winner in the City of Elmhurst's "Mayor for a Day" competition. The competition focused on citizenship, encouraging applicants to propose new ideas to improve their local community.

The text of Kathleen's essay reads as follows: "If I were mayor of Elmhurst, I would encourage all residents young and old to be good citizens by creating a volunteering program called 'Good Citizens.' To help the elderly and less fortunate do things such as shovel the driveway, help paint, move heavy things, run errands and cook. If you earn a certain amount of 'Good Citizens points,' you can earn 'volunteering city dollars' (which are donated by local businesses). You get an official nametag, and when you're running an errand you can stop by some local restaurant and get a drink."

Kathleen's dedication to those in need exemplifies her sense of civic responsibility. Though Kathleen is a young constituent, she understands her duty to the community to be a good neighbor, and recognizes the positive impact of volunteer programs. Kathleen is a reminder of the power of our nation's youth. She is a role model for other young leaders who wish to contribute, and her words serve as a reminder to all young people to be aware of those who are less fortunate in their own communities.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, Kathleen Walsh is a promising young leader who has demonstrated a future in public service. Please join me in recognizing her altruistic spirit and wishing her happiness in her future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE
LIFE OF THE HONORABLE VIC-
TOR CALVO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a dear friend and extraordinary public servant, Victor Calvo, who passed away on September 26, 2010, in Mountain View, California, where he was beloved and respected.

One of the staunchest environmentalists I've ever known, Victor Calvo tirelessly championed environmental issues in local and statewide offices, where his compassion and conviction made him easy to believe and hard to resist. For thirty years he determinedly devoted himself to new ideas that would better the lives of his constituents and leave this earth a better place.

Victor Calvo was born on a ranch in Mountain View, and quickly set about becoming one of the city's most accomplished and dedicated residents. He was the valedictorian of his Mountain View High School class, and joined the Army Air Force in 1942. Over two-dozen bombing missions later—including top secret ones never recorded—Victor Calvo returned to the Bay Area and earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Stanford University. In 1948, he married his wife Nellie, a wonderfully warm woman who would be by his side for the next 62 years.

In 1957, Victor Calvo began his three-decade political career. It started, fittingly enough, on Mountain View's Environmental Planning Commission, one of the first of its kind in the region. Victor Calvo continued to advocate environmental causes on the Mountain View City Council. He was elected Mayor of the City three consecutive times before being termed out in 1968. Impressed by his razor-sharp intellect and integrity, appreciative community members elected him to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, and then to the State Assembly in 1974.

Victor Calvo continued his environmental activism in Sacramento, using the chairmanship of the Committee on Resources, Land Use and Energy to author key legislation and protect California's forests, wetlands, and open spaces. In recognition of his efforts he was named California's "Elected Environmental Legislator of the Year in 1979," and

named to the California Public Utilities Commission by Governor Jerry Brown the following year. Victor Calvo spent a final stint in politics on the California Coastal Commission before retiring in 1989. Of course, even retirement couldn't keep him from helping the City of Mountain View deal with problematic geese on the golf course, where he loved to spend his days.

Among Victor Calvo's many accomplishments stands the creation of Shoreline Park in Mountain View, where thousands of community members gather to stroll, picnic, and watch fireworks on the Fourth of July. Victor Calvo constantly amazed everyone with his impressive grasp of issues, his appreciation for people, and the earnestness and enthusiasm that shone through in everything he did. He was a kind and affectionate husband, father, and grandfather, and a true public servant, quoting Aristotle to teach his children that "you can judge a nation by the way it treats its most vulnerable citizens," and then proceeding to demonstrate this maxim by the power of his own actions.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sincere condolences to Victor Calvo's wife, Nellie; his children Suzanna, Victor, Peter, Theodore and Mary; his 12 grandchildren, his brother, and his two sisters. Throughout his life, Victor Calvo was a man of Mountain View, and a crusader for all Californians. He will be missed, even as his life's legacy lives on for future generations of Californians. I consider it a high privilege to have known Victor Calvo and to have been a beneficiary of his friendship, his service, his vision and his integrity.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF THE LIBRARY OF YOLO
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Yolo County Library. Yolo County Library was created as one of eight original California county libraries with the establishment of state legislation in 1910. Originally known as the Yolo County Free Library, it began in partnership with the Woodland Public Library.

As the agency responsible for public access to information and literacy, Yolo County Library initiated the first school library system in California, supplying books, maps, records, globes and other materials to schools throughout the county, eventually becoming the model for other counties.

Yolo County Library has provided countless hours of public service, superior customer interaction and valued children's and family programming that serves more than 690,000 customers annually. It also circulates more than 1.5 million items and hosts 1,176 programs for more than 23,098 children, teens and adults.

As a cornerstone of social democracy, Yolo County Library continues to provide innovative and free services: information about job and career opportunities; resources for lifelong learning and pursuit of personal and professional development; reliable information

through authenticated database and electronic resources; access to the Internet; family friendly facilities with resources that support early literacy and school readiness; quality programs and services to promote youth development, literacy and lifelong learning.

The Yolo County Library has remained committed to public service that builds communities through the establishment and support of school libraries, bookmobile services and outreach to underserved people and expanding communities, in partnerships with private and public organizations and collaborations with sister libraries and systems.

Yolo County Library and its staff serve thousands of people each day through seven branch libraries in Clarksburg, Davis, Esparto, Knights Landing, West Sacramento, Winters and Yolo and through system-wide services at Central Library Services, YoloLINK, Yolo Reads (Adult Literacy) and the Yolo County Archives and Records Center—providing critical services that no other agency provides.

The Yolo County Library, in partnership with the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, a myriad of private and public entities, the Friends of the Library and other groups has constructed two new facilities and is renovating a third in the span of two years.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time for us to acknowledge and thank the staff, volunteers and supporters at the Yolo County Library, both past and present, who have done so much to enrich the lives of residents, and to congratulate them on a flourishing and beloved library system.

SMITHSONIAN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5717 would upgrade the Smithsonian Institution's scientific and educational activities at its unique animal conservation facility, the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute at Front Royal, Virginia. The SCBI, a part of the National Zoo, is renowned worldwide for its work preserving and breeding endangered species, and is a magnet for prominent researchers and students starting careers in related fields. The bill will provide additional modern facilities to conduct programs and house students at the site, and relocate animal holding facilities for endangered red pandas and clouded leopards.

H.R. 5717 contains three elements. First, the bill would authorize \$1 million in Federal funds in fiscal 2010 which has already been appropriated; \$1 million in fiscal 2011; and \$3 million in later fiscal years, to plan, design, and construct a facility which would include laboratories and offices to conduct research and educational programs. This aggregate authorization of \$5 million constitutes the only Federal funds provided in the bill. The Smithsonian would supply an additional \$5 million out of its own privately-raised trust funds to complete the project.

The bill would also authorize the Smithsonian Board of Regents to enter into agree-

ments for the provision of housing and dining services to participants in the programs, at no cost to the Smithsonian. George Mason University, located in northern Virginia, plans to use \$20 million in state revenue bonds to construct a dormitory and cafeteria facility at the site. There would not be any cost to the Federal government or to the Smithsonian. In October, 2008, the Smithsonian and GMU signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish the "Smithsonian-Mason Global Conservation Studies Program", and GMU will give course credit to participants.

The Smithsonian Institution has frequently entered into cooperative agreements with other institutions, including universities, though this is the first time that it would allow an outside entity to construct a building on property it controls. After 30 years, ownership of the GMU-constructed facilities will pass to the Smithsonian. This no-cost feature makes the project an especially attractive addition to the Smithsonian's infrastructure.

Finally, the bill would authorize the Smithsonian to plan, design and construct animal holding and related program facilities at Front Royal, but without any Federal funding. The cost, estimated to be between \$1 to 2 million, would be paid for entirely by the Smithsonian's privately-raised trust funds.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation was introduced by the three House Members who serve on the Smithsonian Board of Regents—Representatives BECERRA, MATSUI and SAM JOHNSON—and by Rep. WOLF of Virginia, in whose district the facility is located. It was considered and reported by voice vote both by the primary committee of jurisdiction, the Committee on House Administration, and by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I know of no controversy and I urge Members to support H.R. 5717.

IN HONOR OF MADISON WELSH, MISS AMERICA'S PRETEEN NATIONAL TEENAGER 2011

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Madison Welsh for being named Miss America's Preteen National Teenager 2011. She is a loving sister to Russell and Kyle, and the daughter of Mayor Russell and Heidi Welsh.

After being crowned New Jersey Preteen in April, Madison competed in the weeklong national competition in July against the other forty-nine state winners. The competition was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where Madison was crowned the winner. As Miss America's Preteen National Teenager 2011, Madison will travel across the United States for the next year working with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and volunteering in communities across America.

The America's National Teenager competition celebrated its fortieth anniversary this year, making it the longest running pageant for teens in the U.S. Founded in 1970, the pageant promotes leadership, scholastic aptitude and service, and offers more than five million dollars in college scholarships annually. The Preteen division, which Madison won, is for girls between the ages of nine and twelve.

Madam Speaker, Madison Welsh is an outstanding role model among her peers and I congratulate her for being named Miss America's Preteen National Teenager 2011. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOSEPH P. JARJURA OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 15, 2010

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph P. Jarjura, a Connecticut businessman who passed away earlier last month, and to honor both his many contributions to Waterbury and his quintessentially American story.

Born in Zghorta, Lebanon on Christmas Day, 1920, Joseph Jarjura's life changed forever when he met the love of his life, Ann George, on a trip she took to the land of his birth. The two soon fell in love, married, and returned to her hometown of Waterbury in 1948. Here, they would make their home for the next sixty-two years, and here, Joseph would become a U.S. citizen. Lebanon's loss was Connecticut's gain.

In Waterbury, Joseph would go on to found J.P. Jarjura & Sons, a thriving wholesale fruit and vegetable distributor. And he would serve the people of Waterbury not only as an entrepreneur, but as a citizen. Over the years, Joseph helped to found the Ehen Lebanese American Club and the Waterbury CrimeStoppers, and he gave his time and effort to the Rotary Club, the Exchange Club, and several other civic-minded organizations throughout the city.

As a testament to both his community involvement and his story of success through persistence and hard work, the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations bestowed Joseph with their Ellis Island Medal of Honor in 1996, an honor previously accorded to Nobel Prize winners and United States presidents. Seven years earlier, in 1989, Joseph was named mayor for a day by the Lebanese-American community in Waterbury—a job his youngest of seven sons, Michael, would be elected to fill in 2001, and has held ever since.

Joseph Jarjura came to America with a dream, and through decades of hard work and civic service, he achieved it. His story is our story. As we mourn his loss today, we can take solace that he has once again followed his late wife Ann across distant shores. And we know that his legacy lives on in the love and service of his seven sons—Charles, Peter, Arthur, Fred, William, David, and Michael—as well as that of his sister Aurore, his sixteen grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

I offer my deepest condolences to the Jarjura family on their loss, as I thank them for Joseph's lifelong commitment to our Waterbury community.